

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-14 (canceled).

Claim 15 (currently amended): A heat-resistant fiber impregnated material which retains at least 70% of its tensile strength ~~even~~ when left in an environment at 200° C for one hour, comprising and in which heat-resistant fibers ~~are~~ impregnated with a polyimide binder resin, ~~obtained from a water-soluble polyimide precursor as binder resin for the heat-resistant fibers,~~
wherein the polyimide binder resin:
is obtained from a water-soluble polyimide precursor,
has having a glass transition temperature of 190-350° C and
consists essentially of a tetracarboxylic acid component and an aromatic diamine component.

Claim 16 (currently amended): The A heat-resistant fiber impregnated material according to claim 15, wherein the polyimide binder resin is amorphous based on X-ray analysis.

Claim 17 (currently amended): The A heat-resistant fiber impregnated material according to claim 15, wherein the tetracarboxylic acid component comprises polyimide is ~~obtained with~~ at least 50% of a 2,3,3',4'-biphenyltetracarboxylic acid component ~~as the tetracarboxylic acid component.~~

Claim 18 (currently amended): A heat-resistant fiber impregnated material comprising ~~in which~~ heat-resistant fibers ~~are~~ impregnated with a polyimide binder resin,
wherein the polyimide binder resin:
is obtained from a water-soluble polyimide precursor containing 1,2-dimethylimidazole and/or 1-methyl-2-ethylimidazole,

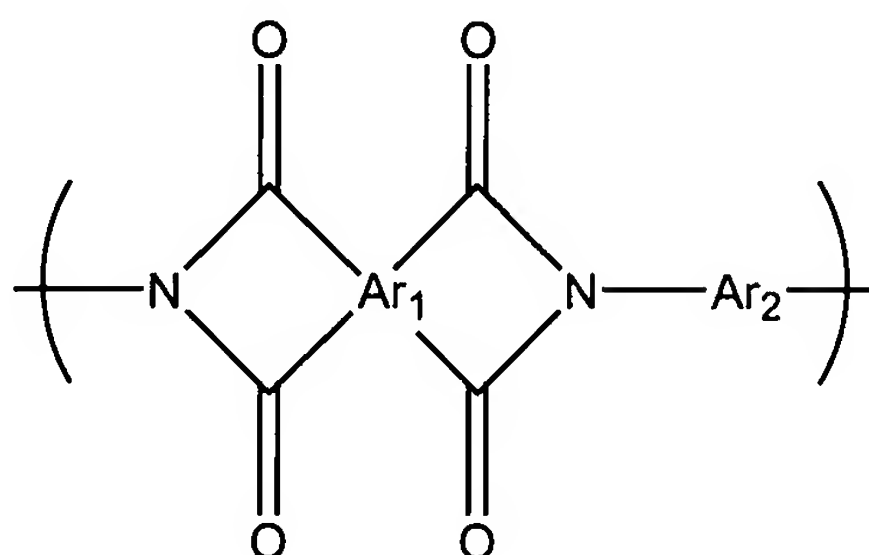
~~has the polyimide being used as a binder resin for the heat-resistant fibers and having a~~
glass transition temperature of 190-350° C,
and consists essentially of a tetracarboxylic acid component and an aromatic diamine
component.

Claim 19 (currently amended): ~~The A~~ heat-resistant fiber impregnated material according to claim 18, wherein the polyimide binder resin is amorphous, based on X-ray analysis.

Claim 20 (currently amended): ~~The A~~ heat-resistant fiber impregnated material according to claim 18, wherein the tetracarboxylic acid component comprises polyimide is
~~obtained with~~ at least 50% of a 2,3,3',4'-biphenyltetracarboxylic acid component ~~as the~~
~~tetracarboxylic acid component.~~

Claim 21 (currently amended): ~~A prepreg An impregnated sheet-like material~~ prepared by further impregnating the heat-resistant fiber impregnated material according to claim 18 with a heat-bonding polyimide.

Claim 22 (currently amended): ~~The prepreg An impregnated sheet-like material~~ according to claim 21, wherein the heat-bonding polyimide is a polyimide with an imide unit represented by the following formula:



wherein Ar₁ is an aromatic tetracarboxylic dianhydride residue, comprising 3,3',4,4'-biphenyltetracarboxylic dianhydride residue and 2,3,3',4'-biphenyltetracarboxylic dianhydride residue in a molar ratio of 0:100-90:10, and Ar₂ is an aromatic diamine residue comprising 1,3-bis(4-aminophenoxy)benzene or 1,3-bis(3-aminophenoxy)benzene and at least one of p-phenylenediamine and diaminodiphenylether in a molar ratio of 10:90-100:0.

Claim 23 (currently amended): A prepreg ~~An impregnated sheet-like material~~ prepared ~~obtained~~ by further impregnating a heat-resistant fiber impregnated material with ~~a~~ heat-bonding polyimide ~~into a heat-resistant fiber impregnated material,~~ wherein the heat-resistant fiber impregnated material comprises heat-resistant fibers impregnated with a polyimide binder resin, and wherein the polyimide binder resin: ~~prepared by using, as a binder for heat-resistant fibers, a polyimide is~~ obtained from a water-soluble polyimide precursor, has ~~which gives a polyimide with~~ a thermal decomposition temperature of 500° C or higher and a breaking elongation of 15% or greater when shaped into a film and a glass transition temperature of 190-350° C, and consists essentially of a tetracarboxylic acid component and an aromatic diamine component.

Claim 24 (currently amended): A laminate prepared by bonding a conductive metal layer onto the prepreg ~~an impregnated sheet-like material~~ according to claim 21.

Claim 25 (currently amended): ~~The A~~ laminate according to claim 24, wherein the metal layer is a copper foil.

Claim 26 (currently amended): A laminate prepared by bonding a conductive metal layer onto the prepreg ~~an impregnated sheet-like material~~ according to claim 23.

Claim 27 (currently amended): The A laminate according to claim 26, wherein the metal layer is a copper foil.